

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 3343

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TU, MARR, NATO

SUBJECT: TURKISH NOTE RE U.S. MILITARY FACILITIES

REF: (A) USNATO 3312; (B) ANKARA 4702

1. AT JUNE 19 MEETING OF THE NATO SENIOR POLITICAL COMMITTEE (SPC), UNDER AGENDA ITEM "STATEMENTS ON POLITICAL SUBJECTS," TURKISH CHARGE READ A BRIEF STATEMENT (TEXT BELOW) INFORMING ALLIES OF THE GOT JUNE 17 NOTE RE US MILITARY FACILITIES AND GIVING BRIEF SYNOPSIS OF NOTE'S CONTENTS. STATEMENT NOTED THAT TURK AMBASSADOR WOULD MAKE A MORE COMPLETE STATEMENT ON THE MATTER TO THE NAC AT ITS REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING NEXT WEEK (NAC MEETING IS AT PRESENT SCHEDULED FOR WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25). US RE (PEREZ) EXPRESSED APPRECIATION TO TURKISH REP FOR INTRODUCING THIS MATTER, WHICH DIRECTLY AFFECTS ALL MEMBERS OF THE ALLIANCE, TO THE SPC.

2. TURKISH REP INFORMED US EVENING OF JUNE 18 OF HIS INSTRUCTIONS TO MAKE STATEMENT TO THE SPC. WHILE TURKISH DELEGATION WOULD HAVE PREFERRED TO INTRODUCE IT DIRECTLY TO THE NAC, NO MEETING CONFIDENTIAL

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WAS SCHEDULED THIS WEEK SINCE PERMREPS ARE IN THE US. AS DEPARTMENT WILL NOTE, TURKISH REP'S STATEMENT IS COMPOSED OF SEVERAL ALMOST WORD-FOR-WORD EXCERPTS FROM THE TURKISH NOTE HANDED TO BERGUS JUNE 17.

3. RECOMMENDATION: WE PRESENTED IN REF A OUR ANALYSIS OF POSSIBLE US INITIATIVES IN RESPONSE TO THE TURKISH NOTE AND SUGGESTED NATO CONSULTATIONS AS A WAY OF HEIGHTENING ALLIED AWARENESS OF THE IMPLICATIONS OF STEPS TURKS MAY CONTEMPLATE. IN EFFECT, HOWEVER, THE TURKS ALREADY HAVE TAKEN THE FIRST MULTILATERAL STEP THEMSELVES. THUS, TO SET THE STAGE FOR ANY FURTHER STEPS IN NATO THE DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO TAKE, WE SUGGEST DEPARTMENT CONSIDER A RESPONSE TO TURKISH JUNE 25 STATEMENT IN THE NAC ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES:

BEGIN QUOTE:

"THE UNITED STATES WELCOMES THIS ACTION BY THE TURKISH REPRESENTATIVE IN GIVING FORMAL NOTIFICATION TO THE NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL OF THE STEPS WHICH THE GOVERNMENT OF TURKEY CONTEMPLATES TAKING CONCERNING MUTUAL SECURITY FACILITIES IN TURKEY. RAISING THIS MATTER IN THE COUNCIL IS FULLY CONSISTENT WITH THE POSITION TAKEN BY TURKEY THAT UNILATERAL MEASURES TAKEN BY ALLIED CONTRIES THAT AFFECT MUTUAL SECURITY ARE A MATTER OF COMMON CONCERN. THIS WAS REFLECTED IN THE REMARKS MADE BY THE TURKISH AMBASSADOR ON APRIL 25 IN THE DEFENSE PLANNING COMMITTEE CONCERNING ALLIANCE DEFENSE SHORTCOMINGS ARISING FROM GREECE'S WITHDRAWAL FROM NATO'S INTEGRATED MILITARY STRUCTURE. ACCORDINGLY, THE UNITED STATES PROPOSES THAT CONSULTATIONS TAKE PLACE IN THE NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL OR IN THE DEFENSE PLANNING COMMITTEE, AS MAY BE APPROPRIATE, CONCURRENTLY WITH THE BILATERAL US-TURKISH NEGOTIATIONS THAT MAY TAKE PLACE ON MATTERS RELATED TO DEFENSE COOPERATION. IN THIS MANNER, THE MULTILATERAL IMPACT OF THE BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS CAN BE FULLY ASSESSED BY ALL ALLIES CONCERNED.

END QUOTE.

4. BEGIN TEXT OF TURKISH REP'S STATEMENT:

AS IS KNOWN THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS PASSED A LEGISLATION ON FEBRUARY 5, 1975, WHICH IMPOSES A COMPLETE ARMS CONFIDENTIAL

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EMBARGO AGAINST TURKEY.

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY HAD COMMUNICATED TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES ITS UNDERSTANDING THAT THIS ACTION OF THE CONGRESS IMPLIED A UNILATERAL ABROGATION OF THE U.S. CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS IN RESPECT OF COMMON DEFENCE COOPERATION WHICH HAS BEEN PURSUED PARTICULARLY SINCE 1954 BETWEEN THE TWO CONTIRES TO THEIR MUTUAL BENEFIT.

MY GOVERNMENT AFTER HAVING WAITED FOR MORE THAN FOUR MONTHS FOR THE REPEAL OF THE LEGISLATION, HAS DRAWN THE CONCLUSION THAT UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES SHE IS ALSO ENTITLED TO BE RELIEVED OF HER OWN CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS.

CONSEQUENTLY, THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT WITH A NOTE DATED
JUNE 17, 1975, INVITED THE GOVERNMENT OF THE U.S. TO
NEGOTIATE IN 30 DAYS THE NEW BASIC PRINCIPLES AND CONDITIONS
AS WELL AS THE NATURE AND EXTENT OF THE DEFENCE COOPERATION
AND THE NEW STATUS OF THE COMMON DEFENCE INSTALLATIONS,
ACTIVITIES AND OPERATIONS.

MY AMBASSADOR WILL GIVE IN THE COUNCIL MEETING DUE TO
TAKE PLACE NEXT WEEK MORE DETAILED INFORMATIONS ABOUT THE
SUBJECT. END TEXT OF TURKISH REP'S STATEMENT. STREATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

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